

BUTTENSCHAW, W. R., The Importance of Selection in vegetative Propagation. [West India Bulletin. Vol. VI. 1905. p. 179—181.)

The author cites the results of experimental Work on violes, pine apples, oranges and lemons in the United States and on oranges, and sugar-canes in the West Indies and concludes that in some instances continued vegetative propagation from selected cuttings has led to a gradual improvement in the particular characters of the plants under experiment.

W. G. Freeman.

HART, T. H., The special Qualities of plants. (West India Bulletin. Vol. VI. 1905. p. 175—178.)

This paper contributed to the last West Indian Agricultural Conference, deals generally with the importance of selecting and growing pure strains of high-class plants and propagating these by vegetative means. The use of unselected seedlings is deprecated as dangerous to the prosperity of an agricultural country. The author urges the need of planters realizing the importance of cultivating only the best varieties procurable.

W. G. Freeman.

SHERRIFF, T. W., Palm Oil and Shea Butter. (Bulletin Department of Agriculture Jamaica. Vol. III. p. 252—253. November 1905.)

A brief description of the mode of preparation of palm oil from the mesocarp of the fruits of the oil palm (*Elaeis guineensis*) as practised by the natives in Southern Nigeria. Two classes of oil are prepared, known as „hard“ and „soft“. The latter is the more valuable and is made without the preliminary boiling to which the former is subjected.

Shea Butter is obtained from the seeds of *Butyrospermum Parkii*, one of the commonest trees in the Hinterland of Lagos and in Northern Nigeria. The fat is used locally and also exported to some extent. Shea-gutta is also obtained from the plant.

W. G. Freeman.

Personalm Nachrichten.

Ernannt: Prof. **W. Palladin** zum correspondirenden Mitglied der kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften in St. Petersburg.

Berufen: Dr. phil. **F. Höck** zum April als Professor an das Kgl. Realgymnasium Perleberg.

Verliehen: Dr. **Udo Dammer**, Kustos am botan. Garten in Berlin, der Titel Professor.

Dr. **Rendle** has been appointed Keeper of the Department of Botany in the British Museum (Natural History).

Gestorben: Holrat **W. Mayer**, Vertreter der Pharmacognosie a. d. Universität Tübingen.

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